

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY – Minutes of the Meeting – Oct 3, 2022, First Congregational Church of Eliot and via ZOOM.

Paul kicked off the evening at 7:00pm welcoming attendees to our monthly meeting which was then followed with a very interesting presentation given by Rosanne Adams on our newest acquisition and plans for the “Chandler Quilt”. The quilt was presented, in 1849, to Lydia Chandler, the widow of the Rev. Samuel Chandler, who was the 2nd Congregational minister in Eliot. This beautiful quilt was made and presented in Eliot, has made its way from the East to the West coast, including Columbia, ME, Augusta, Ga, North Reading, MA, Los Angeles, CA, Santa Cruz, CA, Pasadena CA and finally Salt Spring Island, British Columbia and thanks to Rosanne’s efforts it has made it back here again! Rosanne is working with the Board of Directors and exploring a proper home for the quilt, which is felt best belongs in the care of the First Congregational Church. We will update you when we have more information.

Secretary’s Report (Tracey Graffam-Dickson):

Tracey read the secretary’s report dated 9/12/22. The minutes were approved with three corrections.

Treasurer’s Report (Pam Ashley):

Pam read the treasurer’s report for the period of 9/1/22 through 9/30/22. The Treasure’s report was approved with no corrections.

Programs (Rosanne Fisher and Jan Cerabona): Rosanne confirmed that the program in November, Eric Christian will be presenting “400 Odd Years of Eliot History”.

Membership (Sylvia Moynahan): Sylvia confirmed receipt of \$10 for membership contribution.

Building (Paul Johnson): Paul shared that a new American Flag has been purchased for the Schoolhouse and Jan assisted in buying new bunting for it. On behalf of EHS, Paul thanked Jan for all her efforts managing the #8 School House tours over the course of the summer and welcoming visitors and collecting donations.

Fundraising (Margie Brown): N/A

Education (Jan Cerabona): Jan shared that on Friday Oct 7, the #8 School house will be open to support the scheduled Teacher Workshop. Jan has sent out a letter to the staff and invited them to visit between the hours of 9-3pm. For updates on the display at the Elementary School, Jan shared that the Blacksmiths of Eliot has been set up and will be followed by the Wreaths Across America, followed by the Schools of Eliot and then the Trains & Trolleys, which is currently on display at the at Sturgeon Creek Farm. Jan confirmed that the Wreaths Across America which will be hosted by the Elementary School with a ceremony scheduled for 1pm on Dec. 12th followed by the laying of the wreaths on Dec. 17th in honor of veterans at the Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Cemetery Committee (Paul Johnson): no updates

Collections (Julie Johnson): Rosanne shared that Rick Becker provided an old ledger from the #2 Schoolhouse which is dated from 1891 to 1893. Rosanne has scanned the document for our archives.

Correspondence (Helen Sullivan): N/A

PR/Publicity (Rosanne Fisher and Jan Cerabona): N/A

Grants (Helen Goransson): N/A

Old Business:

Paul provided a brief report on the Eliot Festival Days event. There was a nice turnout with many booths and attendees which was very encouraging. However, the group had to close down a bit earlier than usual due to the high winds and safety risks which tents/debris blowing about. A big thank you to all who participated and volunteered throughout the event.

Paul high-lighted the Legion Fundraising Chilly Tasting event which also had a good turn-out and raised a good amount of money. It was a fun event with the Car Show and live band playing.

Paul also made a note that on behalf of EHS, he provided a formal letter of request to the Town for the payment towards this year's EHS budget. The check has now been received.

Lastly, it was noted that the Eliot Maine Bicentennial Committee conducted a ceremony at the Black Smith Shop has erected a plaque which is now on display for all to see.

New Business:

Paul followed up with a note regarding the Frost Garrison, that for those interested in having a tour, the Schnitzler Family has offered to open their doors for tours on Mondays at noon and requested visitors call ahead to schedule this.

Paul has received a survey on Historical Societies from the Maine Advisory Board and has agreed that he will fill this out on behalf of EHS and send it back.

Grant shared that there is a plan being considered for building a new Town Hall and noted that in the past, EHS has submitted requests to include storage and a location for EHS displays and our collection.

Paul also shared that there is a Maine State Stabilization program which offers tax relief to Maine seniors. If you've lived on the same residence for 20+ years, your taxes will be held at last year's tax rate (with the difference being reimbursed from the State). All residences who meet the criteria need to file their application to receive this by Dec. 1st and are expected to file each year thereafter. Residents can pick up forms up at the Town Office.

Paul closed out the meeting confirmed that the next mtg will be held on Nov. 7, 2022 at 7pm here at the Congregational Church and also via Zoom.

Attendees of the meeting were 14

-Respectfully Submitted,

Tracey Graffam-Dickson

Date: November 7, 2022